Alwaye Ferry.

13 *MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of cars, buses, carts and bullocks that pass through the Alwaye ferry crossing per day ; and

(*b*) whether the one *junghar* provided now is sufficient to cope with the volume of traffic ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): (*a*) No traffic census is being taken now.

(*b*) No.

MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*): May I know from the member how the Government came to know that the one *junghar* provided now is insufficient to cope with the volume of traffic ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : A report has been received from the Division Officer.

MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : May I know from the member what Government have done in the matter ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : The Division Officer has been asked to make proposals for an additional *junghar.*

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know from the member when the insufficiency of this arrangement was reported ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : About six weeks ago.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know from the member whether it was on a reference of this question to the Division Officer that this report was received ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): Probably it was. I am not sure.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Can the Chief Engineer give the House definite information whether it was on a reference of this question to the Division Officer that such a report regarding the insufficiency of the arrangement was received from him ? The House does not want such evasive answers in which the Chief Engineer has been found often indulging.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I have never tried to evade answers.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : That is a question for the Chair to decide and the Chief Engineer has no right to give that reply. I want to know whether it was on a reference to the Division Officer that such a report was received.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Has the Chief Engineer enquired how long it is since that insufficiency has been felt by the public ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Has the Chief Engineer asked the Division Officer to explain why such report was not made prior to the period mentioned by the Chief Engineer, that is six weeks ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I have said that I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : I wish to know whether the Chief Engineer asked for the explanation of the Division Officer why such a report was not submitted by him early enough ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Is it to be taken that there was no explanation called for by the Chief Engineer from the Division Officer ? May I know why the Chief Engineer did not deem it necessary and proper that such an explanation ought to have been called for ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : May I ask the member to frame his question in a simple way ?

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know from the member why he did not deem it proper to call for the explanation of the Division Officer as to why this inconvenience to the public was not brought to the notice of the Chief Engineer early enough ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : Evidently the Division Officer was not aware.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : Regarding the propriety and the information contained in the answer, I submit to the Chair.

PRESIDENT : The question is, why on earth the Division Officer did not bring the matter definitely to the notice of the Chief Engineer early enough.

MR. G. B E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I did not ask the Division Officer for any explanation. All that I asked him was to submit proposals for providing an additional *junghar*.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know from the member whether there is any toll-gate near the Alwaye ferry ? It is said in the answer that no traffic census is being taken now. A reference to the toll-gate contractors would have obviated the difficulty.

PRESIDENT : You want to know whether the toll-gate contractors were consulted in the matter ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No toll-gate contractor was consulted in the matter.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know from the member whether the Chief Engineer has inspected the locality ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : Yes.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : Has he found that the insufficiency of *junghar* is causing great inconvenience to the public ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I experience the usual inconvenience of every traveller using a *junghar* to cross a river.

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